

STATE SENATOR • MICKEY SWITALSKI • 10TH DISTRICT

Switalski Press Release

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SWITALSKI MOVES TO REPLACE MEAP WITH ACT-BASED TEST

Bipartisan bills introduced to replace MEAP with ACT for high schools

(Lansing)- Senator Michael Switalski (D-Roseville) and his Senate colleagues introduced legislation today that would replace the high school Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test with the Michigan Merit Exam, an exam that is used by universities for admissions.

“Considerable amount of classroom time is spent teaching to and administering the MEAP exam,” said Switalski. “This time comes at the expense of educating our children in the basics.”

Currently, the MEAP is used by the state as the measurement to meet the annual yearly progress standard established under the No Child Left Behind Act passed by Congress. The ACT legislation would replace the MEAP with the Michigan Merit Exam, a combination of the ACT and Work Keys work readiness skills test. These tests are currently used by colleges and employers to demonstrate proficiency.

“Replacing the MEAP with the ACT test would allow results to be obtained more quickly and would save parents the cost of paying for the ACT out of their own pockets,” said Switalski. “The MEAP has no bearing on whether a student gets accepted to a college or not. I think the switch would encourage students to take these tests more seriously, ultimately increasing enrollment in Michigan’s colleges and universities.”

The switch of the MEAP to the ACT would not affect the Michigan Merit Award Scholarship program.

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